

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-11 RSC-01 SS-20 SPC-03 INR-10 /053 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:DPASSAGE:GJG

APPROVED BY EA - MR. SNEDDER

EA/ANP - MR. DORRANCE

PM/ISO - MR. STODDART

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R 101828Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 241113

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP, AS

SUBJECT: DOD CONTINGENT IN AUSTRALIA

FOR AMBASSADOR GREEN FROM SNEIDER

1. COL. WITT CAME IN TO TALK TO EA AND PM ABOUT THE SIZE AND STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS OF THE MULTIPLE DOD ELEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA. YOUR CORRESPONDENCE (AND PERSISTENCE) HAS PROMPTED THE JCS TO ORDER A THOROUGH STUDY OF THE PROBLEM, AND A REVIEW IS BEING PREPARED FOR THEM. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS REVIEW WILL BE BASED ON TWO SEPARATE STUDIES CONDUCTED BY COL. WITT AND CINCPACREPAUSTRALIA. THE FORMER, WHICH YOU HAVE, RECOMMENDS MAKING THE DATT THE SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT; THE LATTER, NOT UNPREDICTABLY, OPTS FOR CINCPACREP AS PRIMUS INTER PARES.

2. IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, I THINK IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO EXPOSE THE JCS DIRECTLY TO YOUR THINKING ABOUT PREFERRED DOD ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS IN CANBERRA, AS MUCH FOR THE EFFECT IT WILL HAVE ON THE AUSTRALIAN CONTEXT AS FOR THE SP L-OVER IT MIGHT HAVE REGARDING THE SAME PROBLEM
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IN OTHER COUNTRIES. AS YOU KNOW ONLY TOO WELL, CANBERRA'S

SITUATION IS NOT UNIQUE.

3. WITH RESPECT TO CANBERRA, WE ALSO THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR YOU TO GET ADMIRAL GAYLER'S VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT, AS WE UNDERSTAND HE COMMISSIONED THE CINCPACREP REVIEW OF THE PROBLEM. IF IT WERE CONVENIENT FOR YOU TO CALL ON HIM IN HONOLULU ON YOUR WAY BACK, IT MIGHT SPEED CONSIDERATION ACROSS THE RIVER HERE.

4. FINALLY, WE DO NOT KNOW HOW MUCH TIME IAS BEEN ALLOWED FOR THE JCS STUDY, BUT IF YOU BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, WE COULD EASILY ASK THAT THEY NOT REACH ANY FIRM CONCLUSIONS UNTIL YOU HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO WEIGH IN HERE. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON ALL THIS SO WE CAN TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION WITH DOD*IF YOU PREFER THAT THEY DEFER ANY FINAL DECISION. RUSH

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